

Message Text

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E. O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: EMIN, MA, US
SUBJ: MALAGASY GOVERNMENT (GOMR INTERESTED IN U.S. GOLD MINING
TECHNIQUES

1. EMBASSY RECEIVED NOTE VERBALE FROM MALAGASY MOFA INDICATING GOMR CONSIDERING SENDING TWO OR THREE TECHNICIANS TO US TO STUDY GOLD MINING TECHNIQUES FOR PERIOD OF ABOUT 15-30 DAYS. NOTE ASKS IF USG WOULD BE PREPARED ASSIST MALAGASY EMBASSY, WASH IN MAKING ARRANGEMENTS FOR THEIR STAY IN U.S. AND ORGANIZING VISITS TO GOLD MINING OPERATIONS. EXPENSES WOULD BE PAID BY MALAGASY GOVT THOUGH NOTE INDICATES "AID FROM HOST COUNTRY WOULD BE WELCOME".

2. EMBOFF DISCUSSED NOTE WITH DIRECTOR OF MINES AND ENERGY RAZAFINDRATANDRA TO OBTAIN FURTHER DETAILS RE MALAGASY REQUEST. LATTER INDICATED GOMR LOULD BE INTERESTED IN SENDING TECHNICIANS TO U.S. IF IT POSSIBLE VISIT GOLD MINING OPERATIONS WHICH ARE AIMED AT RECOVERING GOLD FROM MATERIAL IN WHICH GOLD CONTENT IS EXTREMELY LOW-0.5/2.0 GRAMS PER METRIC TON (CONTENT OF MALAGASY GOLD DEPOSITS). THEY WOULD BE PARTICULARLY INTERESTED IN SEEING OPERATIONS INVOLVING AMALGAMATION AND CYANIDE PROCESSES.

3. EMBASSY WOULD LIKE TO OBTAIN INFO ON FOLLOWING QUESTIONS:
(A) ARE THERE US GOLD MINING OPERATIONS INVOLVING RECOVERY

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OF GOLD FROM MATERIAL IN WHICH GOLD CONTENT IS AS LOW AS INDI-

CATED PARA 2 ABOVE?

(B) IF SO, WOULD IT BE POSSIBLE FOR MALAGASY TECHNICIANS TO VISIT SUCH OPERATIONS, PARTICULARLY THOSE USING AMALGAMATION AND CYANIDE PROCESSES?

(C) COULD DEPT OR BUREAU OF MINES ASSIST MALAGASY EMBASSY IN ARRANGING VISITS TO GOLD MINES? BELIEVE USG INVOLVEMENT COULD BE LIMITED TO ARRANGING MINE VISITS LEAVING MALAGASY EMBASSY TO MAKE ARRANGEMENTS FOR TRAVEL AND ACCOMODATIONS.

4. FYI: DIRECTORATE OF MINES AND ENERGY IS PRINCIPAL MALAGASY AGENCY DEALING WITH U.S. COMPANIES INVOLVED IN PETROLEUM AND OTHER MINERAL PROSPECTING AND IT IS EXTREMELY HELPFUL TO THOSE FIRMS AND TO EMBASSY. FOR THIS REASON, WE WOULD LIKE TO BE AS COOPERATIVE AS POSSIBLE WITH DIRECTORATE ON THIS REQUEST. HAVE, OF COURSE, EXPLAINED POSSIBILITY OF FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE FOR TRAVEL TO OR WITHIN STATES IS NIL.

MENDENHALL

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